

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 are pending. Claims 1-4, 10-12 and 18-21 are amended herein. No new matter is added as a result of the claim amendments.

102 Rejections

Claims 1-4, 10-12 and 18-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Mahany et al. ("Mahany;" U.S. Patent No. 5,657,317). The Applicants have reviewed the cited reference and respectfully submit that the present invention as recited in Claims 1-4, 10-12 and 18-21 is not shown or suggested by Mahany.

Independent Claim 1 recites that an embodiment of the present invention is directed to a method comprising "automatically setting said responder device to discoverable mode when said responder device enters awake mode, wherein said responder device in said discoverable mode scans for and responds to broadcast wireless signals that are broadcast by initiator devices; automatically setting said responder device to non-discoverable mode when said responder device enters standby mode, wherein said responder device in said non-discoverable mode does not scan for and does not respond to broadcast wireless signals that are broadcast by initiator devices; and automatically setting said responder device to connectable mode with said responder device in either said awake mode or said standby mode, wherein said responder device in said connectable mode receives and responds to directed wireless signals from initiator devices, wherein directed wireless signals specifically identify said responder

device" (emphasis added). Claims 2-4 are dependent on Claim 1 and recite additional limitations.

Independent Claim 10 recites that an embodiment of the present invention is directed to a method comprising "receiving at said responder device a first wireless signal broadcast by an initiator device, wherein said first wireless signal is a broadcast signal also received by multiple responder devices within range of said initiator device; automatically entering a discoverable mode when said responder device enters awake mode, wherein said responder device in said discoverable mode sends a second wireless signal in response to said first wireless signal, wherein said second wireless signal is to be received by said initiator device; automatically entering a non-discoverable mode when said responder device enters standby mode, wherein said responder device in said non-discoverable mode receives but does not send a response to said first wireless signal; and automatically entering a connectable mode with said responder device in either said awake mode or said standby mode, wherein said responder device in said connectable mode receives and responds to a directed wireless signal from initiator device, wherein said directed wireless signal specifically identifies said responder device so that only said responder device and not any other of said multiple responder devices within said range of said initiator device receives said directed wireless signal" (emphasis added). Claims 11-12 are dependent on Claim 10 and recite additional limitations.

Independent Claim 18 recites that an embodiment of the present invention is directed to a responder device that implements a method comprising “automatically setting said responder device to discoverable mode when said responder device enters awake mode, wherein said responder device in said discoverable mode scans for and responds to broadcast wireless signals that are broadcast by initiator devices; automatically setting said responder device to non-discoverable mode when said responder device enters standby mode, wherein said responder device in said non-discoverable mode does not scan for and does not respond to broadcast wireless signals that are broadcast by initiator devices; and automatically setting said responder device to connectable mode with said responder device in either said awake mode or said standby mode, wherein said responder device in said connectable mode receives and responds to directed wireless signals from initiator devices, wherein directed wireless signals specifically identify said responder device” (emphasis added).

Claims 19-21 are dependent on Claim 18 and recite additional limitations.

In the claimed embodiments, in discoverable mode, a responder device will scan for and respond to broadcast signals. In the claimed embodiments, in non-discoverable mode, a responder device does not scan for and does not respond to broadcast signals. In the claimed embodiments, in connectable mode, a responder device scans for and responds to directed signals.

Thus, embodiments of the present claimed invention recite at least three distinct modes in addition to an awake mode and a standby mode:

discoverable mode; non-discoverable mode; and connectable mode. Each of these three modes is specified by the claims and differentiated in the claims from the other modes. The discoverable mode is different from the non-discoverable mode. The discoverable mode is different from the awake mode, and the non-discoverable mode is different from the standby mode. The connectable mode is different from the discoverable mode, the non-discoverable mode, the standby mode and the awake mode.

Also, embodiments of the present claimed invention recite at least two types of signals: broadcast signals, and directed signals. Each of these types of signals is specified by the claims and differentiated in the claims from the other type of signal. Notably, the instant Office Action also admits to a distinction between broadcast and wireless signals.

In contrast to the present claimed invention, Mahany only describes one type of signal (an idle sense message). The signal described by Mahany cannot be both a broadcast signal and a directed signal. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully assert that Mahany does not show or suggest all of the modes recited in the claims.

It is important to consider not just the types of signals recited by the present claimed invention, but the different modes recited in the claims and the specific actions for responding to each particular type of signal that are prescribed according those modes. Similarly, it is important to consider not just the different modes recited by the present claimed invention, but how those modes relate to the different types of signals recited in the claims.

Applicants respectfully submit that Mahany appears to describe only directed signals. Applicants respectfully assert that Mahany does not show or suggest broadcast signals. Mahany also does not show or suggest modes (e.g., the discoverable mode and the non-discoverable mode) associated with broadcast signals. Mahany also does not show or suggest automatically entering the discoverable mode (in which broadcast signals are scanned for and responded to), and in particular does not show or suggest entering the discoverable mode while entering awake mode. Moreover, Mahany does not show or suggest automatically entering the non-discoverable mode (in which broadcast signals are not scanned for and are not responded to), and in particular does not show or suggest entering the non-discoverable mode while entering standby mode.

Also, according to the present claimed invention, while in either discoverable mode or non-discoverable mode, a responder device is also in connectable mode (in which directed signals are received and responded to). Thus, according to the present claimed invention, while in non-discoverable mode, the responder device will not scan for and respond to broadcast signals, but will receive and respond to directed signals. Therefore, in contrast to the present claimed invention, Applicants respectfully assert that Mahany does not show or suggest the capability to distinguish between a broadcast signal and a directed signal, and to take certain actions (or not) depending on the type of signal.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Mahany does not show or suggest the present claimed invention as recited by independent

Claims 1, 10 and 18, and that Claims 1, 10 and 18 are in condition for allowance. Also, Applicants respectfully submit that Mahany does not show or suggest the additional claimed features of the present invention as recited in Claims 2-4 dependent on Claim 1, Claims 11-12 dependent on Claim 10, and Claims 19-21 dependent on Claim 18, and that Claims 2-4, 11-12 and 19-21 are in condition for allowance as being dependent on allowable base claims. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully assert that the basis for rejecting Claims 1-4, 10-12 and 18-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) is traversed.

103 Rejections

Claims 5-8, 13-16 and 22-25

Claims 5-8, 13-16 and 22-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mahany in view of admitted prior art. The Applicants have reviewed the cited references and respectfully submit that the present invention as recited in Claims 5-8, 13-16 and 22-25 is not shown or suggested by Mahany and the admitted prior art, alone or in combination.

Claims 5-8 are dependent on independent Claim 1; Claims 13-16 are dependent on independent Claim 10; and Claims 22-25 are dependent on independent Claim 18. As discussed above, Applicants respectfully submit that Mahany does not show or suggest the present invention as recited by independent Claims 1, 10 and 18.

Applicants respectfully submit that the admitted prior art does not overcome the shortcomings of Mahany. The admitted prior art, alone or in

combination with Mahany, does not show or suggest "automatically setting said responder device to discoverable mode when said responder device enters awake mode, wherein said responder device in said discoverable mode scans for and responds to broadcast wireless signals that are broadcast by initiator devices; automatically setting said responder device to non-discoverable mode when said responder device enters standby mode, wherein said responder device in said non-discoverable mode does not scan for and does not respond to broadcast wireless signals that are broadcast by initiator devices; and automatically setting said responder device to connectable mode with said responder device in either said awake mode or said standby mode, wherein said responder device in said connectable mode receives and responds to directed wireless signals from initiator devices, wherein directed wireless signals specifically identify said responder device" as recited in independent Claim 1 (emphasis added). The admitted prior art, alone or in combination with Mahany, does not show or suggest "receiving at said responder device a first wireless signal broadcast by an initiator device, wherein said first wireless signal is a broadcast signal also received by multiple responder devices within range of said initiator device; automatically entering a discoverable mode when said responder device enters awake mode, wherein said responder device in said discoverable mode sends a second wireless signal in response to said first wireless signal, wherein said second wireless signal is to be received by said initiator device; automatically entering a non-discoverable mode when said responder device enters standby mode, wherein said responder device in said non-discoverable mode receives but does not send a response to said first wireless signal; and automatically entering a connectable mode with

said responder device in either said awake mode or said standby mode, wherein said responder device in said connectable mode receives and responds to a directed wireless signal from initiator device, wherein said directed wireless signal specifically identifies said responder device so that only said responder device and not any other of said multiple responder devices within said range of said initiator device receives said directed wireless signal" as recited in independent Claim 10 (emphasis added). The admitted prior art, alone or in combination with Mahany, does not show or suggest "automatically setting said responder device to discoverable mode when said responder device enters awake mode, wherein said responder device in said discoverable mode scans for and responds to broadcast wireless signals that are broadcast by initiator devices; automatically setting said responder device to non-discoverable mode when said responder device enters standby mode, wherein said responder device in said non-discoverable mode does not scan for and does not respond to broadcast wireless signals that are broadcast by initiator devices; and automatically setting said responder device to connectable mode with said responder device in either said awake mode or said standby mode, wherein said responder device in said connectable mode receives and responds to directed wireless signals from initiator devices, wherein directed wireless signals specifically identify said responder device" as recited in independent Claim 18 (emphasis added).

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Mahany and the admitted prior art (alone or in combination) do not show or suggest the additional claimed features of the present invention as recited in Claims 5-

8, 13-16 and 22-25, and that these claims are in condition for allowance as being dependent on allowable base claims. As such, the Applicants respectfully assert that the basis for rejecting Claims 5-8, 13-16 and 22-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is traversed.

Claims 9, 17 and 26

Claims 9, 17 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mahany in view of Vook et al. ("Vook;" U.S. Patent No. 5,625,882). The Applicants have reviewed the cited references and respectfully submit that the present invention as recited in Claims 9, 17 and 26 is not shown or suggested by Mahany and Vook, alone or in combination.

Claim 9 is dependent on independent Claim 1; Claim 17 is dependent on independent Claim 10; and Claim 26 is dependent on independent Claim 18. As discussed above, Applicants respectfully submit that Mahany does not show or suggest the present invention as recited by independent Claims 1, 10 and 18.

Applicants respectfully submit that Vook does not overcome the shortcomings of Mahany. Applicants respectfully submit that Vook, alone or in combination with the Mahany, does not show or suggest the limitations of Claims 1, 10 and 18 previously cited herein.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Mahany and Vook (alone or in combination) do not show or suggest the additional claimed features of the present invention as recited in Claims 9, 17 and 26, and that

these claims are in condition for allowance as being dependent on allowable base claims. As such, the Applicants respectfully assert that the basis for rejecting Claims 9, 17 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is traversed.

Conclusions

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejected claims.

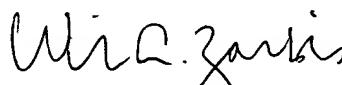
Applicants respectfully assert that Claims 1-26 overcome the rejections of record and, therefore, Applicants respectfully solicit allowance of these claims.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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